



Press Release

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Released: January 28, 2011

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Idaho Sheep Inventory up 7 Percent From Previous Year

All sheep and lamb inventory in Idaho on January 1, 2011, totaled 235,000 head, up 15,000 head from the previous year, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Breeding sheep and lamb inventory on January 1, 2011, totaled 185,000 head. Breeding ewes one year old and older totaled 153,000 head, up 3,000 head from January 1, 2010. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2011 totaled 50,000 head. The 2010 lamb crop of 205,000 head was up 10,000 head from 2009.

Idaho meat goat inventory on January 1, 2011 was 12,700 head, down 300 head from a year ago. Milk goats totaled 3,500 head, up 700 head from the previous year.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2011, totaled 5.53 million head, down 2 percent from 2010. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.12 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.26 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2011, totaled 1.42 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2010. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 21 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 34 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings. The 2010 lamb crop of 3.60 million head, was down 2 percent from 2009. The 2010 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2010, unchanged from 2009. Shorn wool production in the United States during 2010 was 30.6 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2009. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.22 million head, up slightly from 2009. The average price paid for wool sold in 2010 was \$1.15 per pound for a total value of 35.3 million dollars, up 45 percent from 24.3 million dollars in 2009.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2011, totaled 3.00 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.49 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. Does one year old and older, at 1.84 million head, were 1 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 514,000 head, down 1 percent from a year ago. Kid crop for 2010 totaled 1.91 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2009.